

Washington, DC - Rep. Linda Sánchez spoke on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives today in honor of U.S. Army First Sgt. Blue C. Rowe, of Whittier, CA, who was killed in action in Afghanistan. To view Rep. Sánchez' speech [click here](#) .

Statement for the Record - Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (CA-39)  
on the Death of U.S. Army First Sgt. Blue Rowe of Whittier, CA in Afghanistan  
Monday, June 08, 2009

Madam Speaker,

It is with great sadness that I rise to pay tribute to U.S. Army First Sgt. Blue C. Rowe. Sgt. Rowe, a devoted husband and father, was a constituent of mine from Whittier, California. This brave American was killed in action in Afghanistan on May 26, 2009, on the 15th anniversary of his service in the military.

Sgt. Rowe was killed by an improvised explosive device. The thirty-three year-old Rowe leaves behind his seven year-old son Andrew and his wife, Cindy.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Cindy and Andrew. I hope that they can find some solace in the gratitude that our nation owes to Sgt. Rowe for his honorable service to his countrymen.

Sgt. Rowe spent his entire adult life serving our country. He joined the Army in 1994 and served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Last July, he mobilized again for duty in Afghanistan.

He and his family have made the greatest sacrifice that one can make, and we are forever in his debt.

Sgt. Rowe, whose life embodied the meaning of the word "patriot," will be missed by family, friends, and colleagues, but his honorable deeds will not be forgotten.